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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Denmark

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fourth session from 18 to 29 January 2016. The review of Denmark was held at the 7th meeting on 21 January 2016. The delegation of Denmark was headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kristian Jensen. At its 14th meeting, held on 26 January 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Denmark.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Denmark: Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire and Panama.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Denmark:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/DNK/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/DNK/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/DNK/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Denmark through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation said that the Government looked forward to receiving the recommendations from the current review, and thanked all national stakeholders engaged in the national consultation process leading up to the review, not least the Danish Institute for Human Rights. The high number of refugees and immigrants coming to Europe in 2015 was unprecedented. Within the European Union, Denmark had accepted a large number of asylum seekers relative to its population size, and relative to geographical size, it was one of the countries in the world providing the most humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees. Danish policies were in full accordance with the country's international obligations.

6. Denmark had received 133 recommendations during the first universal periodic review. Of them, a total of 102 had been accepted, while 5 had been partially accepted. The head of delegation highlighted some of the actions that the recommendations from the first review had generated.

7. Responding to some of the written questions, he stated that unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors were appointed a personal representative who supported and cared for them with regard to personal issues and attended asylum interviews and other meetings with the authorities. Accommodation for all unaccompanied minors was provided at a special children's centre run by the Danish Red Cross.

8. The number of juvenile delinquents being incarcerated with adults was small; in 2015, an average of 1.3 inmates aged under 18 had been placed in a prison with adults. In some cases, separating inmates aged under 18 from adults would mean placing them in a prison far from their home, or in solitary confinement. There had been only one case of court-ordered solitary confinement of a minor since 2011.

9. The delegate of the Faroe Islands said that new residential facilities had been established in the Faroes for people with special needs, who had traditionally been offered housing and care outside the Faroes. Measures had been taken to address the low participation of women in public committees and politics and over the past three elections, the share of women in the Faroes Parliament had gone from under 10 per cent to over 30 per cent. A proposal to allow same-sex marriage had been submitted to the Faroes Parliament and legislation regarding sexual offences and protection of victims of stalking would be presented in Parliament in autumn 2016.

10. The delegate of Greenland said that the Human Rights Council of Greenland had been established and that the mandate of the Danish Institute for Human Rights had been extended to Greenland. A children's council and a children's spokesperson had been appointed as part of the Children's Rights Institution in order to increase awareness of children's rights and living conditions. A strategy and action plan against violence had been adopted, particularly targeting domestic violence. Combating violence and improving conditions for children would be a major priority in the forthcoming years. A consultancy unit had been established to assist social services to improve their performance in cases involving children.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

11. During the interactive dialogue, 86 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

12. Bulgaria commended Denmark for its ratification of several instruments since the first review, the establishment of the Office for Children and the Greenland Human Rights Council. It appreciated the efforts to combat domestic violence, discrimination and trafficking, which were reflected in several national action plans.

13. Burkina Faso noted that Denmark had made significant progress in improving the normative and institutional framework on the rights of the child, vulnerable persons, persons with disabilities, refugees and migrants, and on nationality rights. It urged Denmark to continue focusing on protecting human rights, especially those of migrants and refugees, and to strengthen human rights cooperation between the two countries.

14. Iceland applauded efforts to place human rights at the forefront of the national agenda and urged the Government to live up to the high human rights and humanitarian standards of Denmark and refrain from taking any measures that would undermine its international obligations towards refugees.

15. Chile recognized the institutional and legal framework for protecting and promoting human rights, through ratification of international instruments and the standing invitation to the special procedures, and highlighted the action plans relating to gender equality and the implementation of Security Council resolution 1235 (2000).

16. China noted the efforts to promote and protect the rights of children, persons with disabilities, refugees and migrants and to advance gender equality. It also noted the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (2015-2018).

17. Colombia welcomed the extensive information that Denmark had provided for the review and its achievements in the protection and promotion of the rights of children and in guaranteeing the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

18. Costa Rica welcomed the role of Denmark as an advocate of the International Criminal Court and hoped that it would continue those efforts. Costa Rica also welcomed the creation of the expert committee on the incorporation of human rights instruments into Danish law and other policy measures, but was concerned about cases of discrimination against members of minorities.

19. Côte d'Ivoire commended Denmark for its cooperation with international human rights institutions, its accession to legal instruments, its adoption of the third National Action Plan for implementation of Security Council resolution 1235 (2000) and the entry into force in 2012 of new rules on family reunification for the benefit of children.

20. Djibouti welcomed the adoption of the third National Action Plan for implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the integration of a greater number of children with disabilities in mainstream education. It expressed concerns about discrimination against minorities, including Muslims.

21. Ecuador appreciated the efforts Denmark had made since the first review, including its adoption of legislation to combat domestic violence and to facilitate voting for persons with disabilities. Ecuador was deeply concerned about legislation requiring refugees to relinquish their valuables.

22. Egypt welcomed developments since the first review, including enhanced human rights education. It was concerned about the adoption of restrictive policies on migration and asylum seekers, including the new law on confiscating valuables, and increasing reports of hate crimes and racist discourse.

23. Spain welcomed the adoption of the third National Action Plan for implementation of Security Council resolution 1235 (2000). It appreciated the efforts Denmark had made to investigate hate crimes and to integrate children with disabilities in mainstream education.

24. Finland appreciated the involvement of civil society in the universal periodic review process and encouraged Denmark to adopt a legislative framework to protect women from psychological violence. It noted the concerns of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women about the adverse impact of the existing legislation on citizenship on stateless women and girls.

25. Georgia appreciated the new laws adopted and the action taken since the first review, including the strengthening of the advocacy role of the National Council for Children and the establishment of the Office for Children. It encouraged the practice of submitting midterm implementation reports.

26. Germany commended Denmark for its commitment to upholding human rights and increased efforts to place human rights at the forefront of its national agenda.

27. Ghana noted the establishment of the Office for Children as part of the Danish Parliamentary Ombudsman Institution and the reform of the Disability Pension since the first review. It applauded Denmark for having implemented a significant number of the recommendations from that review.

28. Greece highlighted progress made in the protection of children, especially vulnerable children, efforts to reduce bullying in schools and progress achieved on the rights of persons with disabilities. It welcomed the results of efforts to promote the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and to increase gender equality and women's participation in the labour market.

29. Guatemala noted that Denmark had made undeniable progress, particularly its establishment of an expert committee to examine the incorporation of international human rights instruments into law, but was concerned that the Supreme Court had stated that treaties that were not incorporated into domestic law did not have a direct effect on the domestic legal order.

30. Honduras thanked the delegation of Denmark for its report and made recommendations.

31. Hungary noted that restrictions in the mandate and powers of the Office for Children had resulted in the majority of complaints being refused. It encouraged Denmark to comply with the recommendations of the relevant monitoring bodies of the Council of Europe, particularly by reinforcing linguistic rights and taking additional measures to combat manifestations of intolerance, racism and xenophobia.

32. Italy welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention), the legal amendment allowing dual citizenship, and increased protection measures for children with special needs and persons with disabilities.

33. Indonesia commended Denmark for its achievements, particularly on the rights of children and persons with disabilities, and its contribution to promoting universal ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment through the Convention against Torture Initiative. Indonesia noted challenges relating to hate crime and the need to take further measures to fully implement migrants' rights.

34. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concern at discrimination against minorities, especially Muslims, and migrants in employment, education and housing, at the increase in hate speech directed at refugees and Muslims on social media, and at the large number of children living without their parents and cared for outside the home.

35. Iraq commended Denmark for its legislative achievements, especially on the rights of children and persons with disabilities, its efforts to meet the needs of refugees and integrate them in society, in line with regulatory frameworks and amendments to integration law, and its adoption of laws prohibiting hate speech.

36. Canada noted the national action plans to stop violence against women and encouraged Denmark to pursue its efforts to protect women and girls from intimate partner violence.

37. Japan commended Denmark for its role in prohibiting torture and promoting gender equality. Japan was concerned at reported discrimination against persons belonging to minorities and non-citizens in relation to employment, education and housing and xenophobic discourse in the media. It welcomed initiatives to help migrants and refugees to integrate in society.

38. Kyrgyzstan praised Denmark for its continuous efforts to exercise its responsibility to uphold human rights standards and for its commitment to enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights.

39. Lebanon commended Denmark for its commitments to protecting and promoting human rights, particularly those of children, and its efforts to combat discrimination and xenophobia through various policies and rigorous standards, reflecting its commitments to human rights in general.

40. Libya welcomed the delegation, thanked it for presenting the national report and made recommendations.

41. Denmark emphasized that the Government regarded hate speech and hate crimes, online or not, as a high priority area in crime prevention. A monitoring programme had been launched, the results of which should facilitate better plans and national strategies on hate crime prevention in the future.

42. Danish legislation ensured comprehensive protection against discrimination on the grounds of race and ethnic origin. In an effort to promote tolerance and combat racism and xenophobia, the authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society had carried out several initiatives.

43. The delegation, responding to comments, noted that in 2015, temporary protection status had been introduced for asylum seekers entitled to asylum on the basis of the general situation in their home country. Only about 20 per cent of those who had been granted asylum fell under the temporary protection status category. In general, the right to family reunification was deferred for that group. Exceptions to the deferral were made based on an individual assessment in each case, ensuring observance of the country's international obligations and ensuring that, where individual circumstances dictated it, family reunification was granted within the initial one-year period. That could be extended to three years pending a proposal that would be debated in Parliament.

44. Regarding seizure of valuables, the Danish welfare State was based on the principle that the State would provide and pay for individuals who were unable to take care of themselves. It would therefore provide for asylum seekers who were unable to take care of themselves. The authorities would be given the power to seize valuables, such as cash, that had a value of over approximately US$ 1,500 in order to cover expenses such as subsistence and housing during the processing of the asylum application. It was a misconception that that authorities would seize jewellery that was of sentimental value to the owner.

45. Newly arrived asylum seekers could be detained only when it was necessary to complete the registration and identification process and would be released immediately after completion of that process. Rejected asylum seekers could be detained only if they did not cooperate on their return and if deportation was possible. Both rules were in conformity with the international obligations of Denmark. A rule had been introduced suspending automatic access to judicial review of a detention within three days. The rule could be applied only in a period when there was a significant increase in refugees and migrants. On request, the lawfulness of a detention would be decided by a court as soon as possible.

46. Responding to a question, the delegation said that all newly arrived immigrants and refugees were offered training in the Danish language and on the basic functions of society, as well as activities to facilitate their access to the labour market or an education. Civil society played an important role in the integration process. For example, the Danish Red Cross ran a project offering a Danish friend to all newly arrived refugees to encourage and support their understanding of how Danish society worked while building bridges between cultures and fostering better cross-cultural understanding.

47. Denmark had made a commitment to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Denmark was currently examining the need for legislative amendments for Greenland and the Faroes in order to meet the obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. Denmark was party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and committed to its full implementation. However, many social and economic rights entailed important macroeconomic choices better decided upon in a parliamentary setting. Therefore there was no intention to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Denmark found that the International Convention on the

Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families did not consistently distinguish between migrant workers legally residing in a host country and migrant workers staying illegally. Granting social benefits to illegal migrant workers would undermine the Danish welfare State and encourage illegal migration. Denmark had ratified all the core conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on workers' rights, which encompassed foreign nationals legally residing in Denmark.

48. The delegation stressed that an extensive evaluation had already been made, in the wake of the terror attacks in Paris and Copenhagen, of the level of preparedness of Denmark for acts of terror, which had led to initiatives to secure adequate safeguards against terror.

49. Lithuania welcomed the ratification by Denmark of the Istanbul Convention and its efforts to combat trafficking in children. Lithuania appreciated the cooperation of Denmark with OHCHR and its regular financial support to it.

50. Malaysia acknowledged initiatives aimed at improving the rights of persons with disabilities, at tackling child pornography and at raising awareness on human rights in business. Malaysia expressed concern at the proposal to confiscate cash and valuables from asylum seekers and urged Denmark to reconsider.

51. Maldives congratulated Denmark on its progress since the previous review and welcomed the adoption by Greenland of the Gender Equality Act in 2013 and the 2014-2017 Strategy and Action Plan against Violence.

52. Mexico acknowledged the progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights since the first cycle.

53. Montenegro welcomed steps to improve the legislative framework on the protection of children, persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. It noted the new monitoring system for hate crimes and the revised guidance on handling such cases. Montenegro shared the concern of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination about the increase in xenophobia and political propaganda targeting non-citizens and racist publications in the media.

54. Morocco welcomed the focus of Denmark on protecting the rights of children, vulnerable groups, asylum seekers and migrants as part of its efforts to implement the normative, institutional and legislative framework. It congratulated Denmark on its commitment and efforts to combat torture, especially through the international Convention against Torture Initiative.

55. Mozambique noted the progress Denmark had made by following the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and adopting action plans for persons with disabilities and to combat human trafficking. Mozambique referred to consultations on accession to Protocol No. 12 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European Convention on Human Rights).

56. Namibia commended Denmark for its efforts to promote and protect children's rights, including through the amendment of nationality laws. Namibia remained concerned about the solitary confinement of children. It noted that the amendments to the Integration Act and the Aliens Act had improved the situation for refugees and migrants.

57. Nepal welcomed the entry into force of laws protecting children, vulnerable persons, persons with disabilities, refugees and migrants and concerning nationality rights. It appreciated the provision of development assistance to foster socioeconomic development, the support of Denmark for capacity-building in national human rights institutions and its financial contributions to OHCHR and other mechanisms.

58. The Netherlands encouraged Denmark to continue putting human rights at the forefront of policy, including when confronted with external challenges, as Europe currently faced. The Netherlands called for children's and young people's self-experienced gender to be recognized as authentic and legitimate.

59. New Zealand commended Denmark for its progress on gender pay equity. New Zealand referred to the challenges caused by the Syrian conflict, including the sudden influx of people into Denmark. It acknowledged efforts to address hate crimes.

60. Nicaragua highlighted progress in implementing recommendations related to children, persons with disabilities and gender equality. Nicaragua encouraged Denmark to continue combating human trafficking and to take into consideration recommendations made in other forums, including ILO.

61. Norway commended Denmark for establishing the Office for Children, while identifying limitations in its mandate, and for strengthening the Criminal Code and penalizing non-consensual sex with a victim in "helpless state" as rape. Norway noted that the legislation of the Faroe Islands lagged behind, particularly as it included a reduced penalty for rape and sexual violence within marriage.

62. Pakistan noted that little progress had been made in terms of giving consideration to cultural and religious sensitivities when designing social integration policies and programmes. Pakistan was concerned at the treatment of victims of trafficking and at the increasingly negative political discourse on migrants, especially Muslims, which was adversely affecting their socioeconomic situation.

63. Panama welcomed the ratification by Denmark of international human rights instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

64. The Philippines appreciated improved policies on migrants and asylum seekers, particularly the shift in the selection criteria for refugees, and the increased assistance for victims of trafficking. While the Philippines welcomed initiatives to protect and promote women's rights, it was concerned at the persistence of domestic violence.

65. Poland appreciated the adoption in Greenland of the Gender Equality Act, the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and the action plan against violence in the family and in intimate relations. Poland welcomed the appointment in Greenland of the Minister for Gender Equality.

66. Portugal welcomed the establishment of the Office for Children and the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. It expressed concern about the progressive deterioration in conditions for asylum seekers and immigrants, including the detention of migrant children and the confiscation of refugees' belongings.

67. The Republic of Korea observed the progress Denmark had made in ensuring the rights of children and persons with disabilities in institutional and practical terms, and appreciated its efforts to reduce solitary confinement, particularly for juveniles.

68. The Republic of Moldova recognized the establishment of the Office for Children and the initiatives taken to safeguard the rights of vulnerable children and children at risk, but was concerned about children in institutional care and action taken to combat domestic violence, particularly as it affected children.

69. The Russian Federation was concerned that, despite the avowed commitment of Denmark to observing human rights standards, the situation was far from being beyond reproach. The Russian Federation expressed particular concern about the human rights situation of migrants and refugees.

70. Saudi Arabia commended the efforts taken to guarantee a better future for Danish citizens regardless of their origins. It was concerned, however, about reports of racism and discrimination based on religious beliefs, and denounced Islamophobia.

71. Serbia welcomed school reforms to improve academic results, increase pupils' well-being and reduce bullying, and commended efforts to eliminate discrimination against marginalized groups, particularly measures to combat sexism, stereotypes and harassment based on gender expression.

72. Singapore welcomed efforts to strengthen integration and ensure educational opportunities for ethnic minorities and recognized the challenges and opportunities posed by ethnic and religious diversity and the importance of maintaining social cohesion.

73. Slovakia acknowledged progress on implementing recommendations, including identifying law enforcement officials, and welcomed protection measures for vulnerable groups, particularly the new hotline for domestic violence victims. It noted that protection from bullying in schools was insufficient owing to the lack of clarity of the law and the failure to comply with it.

74. Slovenia welcomed the establishment of the Office for Children and the inclusion of the rights of the child in the teacher training curriculum, but noted problems with discrimination and segregation in schools, the education of children in alternative care and solitary confinement.

75. South Africa welcomed the adoption of a national strategy on gender mainstreaming and efforts to combat poverty and encouraged Denmark to promote, protect and fulfil human rights, including the right to development.

76. Estonia welcomed the efforts made by Denmark to protect children's rights, highlighting the establishment of the Office for Children and the helpline for children of divorced parents. It also welcomed the role of Denmark in promoting gender equality and women's rights, notably the results achieved in terms of women's participation in the labour market and decision-making positions. Estonia underlined the importance of the Greenland Human Rights Council and commended Denmark for its role in humanitarian aid and helping torture victims.

77. Sri Lanka noted the continued efforts of Denmark to develop its legislative and institutional frameworks to ensure human rights protection for its citizens, particularly children's rights through the establishment of the Special Office, and to increase the number of women in management positions and protect women from domestic violence.

78. Denmark would continue to allocate 0.7 per cent of its gross national income to development assistance and encouraged other countries to meet the recommended target for development assistance. It urged all countries to ensure that their citizens benefited fully from economic growth by combating bad governance and corruption.

79. Victims of human trafficking could apply for asylum or a residence permit like other foreign nationals. However, a residence permit would not be granted solely on the grounds that the person was a victim of trafficking. Circumstances relating to that fact might, however, be of relevance in the asylum assessment. If a victim of trafficking applied for asylum, a procedural stay would be granted while the case was processed.

80. The Children's Office within the Ombudsman Institution constituted an additional guarantee of legal protection of children in Denmark, when all other relevant means had been exhausted. It did not replace the existing complaints system.

81. Responding to a question on mother tongue teaching to children from non-European countries, the delegation said that an experimental programme designed to examine the effects of different teaching modules had been launched; about 3,500 pupils from 210

schools would participate in it. Regarding bullying, the focus was on empowering individual public primary and lower secondary schools to formulate an anti-bullying strategy.

82. The Government placed great importance on reducing the use of coercion in psychiatry. Funds had been allocated for trial runs with force-free units in psychiatric care. A task force had been formed to monitor the trials, which aimed for a 50 per cent reduction by 2020 in coercive measures and in the use of immobilization.

83. Responding to a question, the delegation said that the legal system already had a number of provisions prohibiting discrimination within and outside the labour market. Denmark was currently considering taking adequate measures to prohibit discrimination on the ground of disability.

84. The State of Palestine commended the progress made, including the establishment of an expert committee to examine the incorporation of international instruments. It noted the positive initiatives taken in promoting children's rights and welcomed the steps taken with regard to business and human rights, including the institution for responsible business.

85. Sweden commended efforts to improve gender equality while noting the need for continuous improvement to achieve equal opportunities for men and women. It expressed concern about the tendency for public discourse to be prejudicial towards migrants, sometimes even amounting to hate speech.

86. Thailand encouraged Denmark to expedite the revocation of territorial reservations of the human rights instruments for Greenland and Faroe Islands. It welcomed the Action Plan for Gender Equality and the limited use of solitary confinement as a disciplinary measure for inmates.

87. Tunisia noted the adoption of policies and measures for the implementation of recommendations from the first review and welcomed the excellent cooperation with treaty bodies and the commitment to official development assistance.

88. Turkey noted that Denmark hosted a relatively high number of refugees and welcomed humanitarian aid efforts and development programmes worldwide. It encouraged Denmark to strengthen efforts to eliminate racism, xenophobia and discrimination in society. It remained concerned about restrictions on family reunification.

89. Uganda noted the progress made since the last review, including the adoption in Greenland of the Gender Equality Act and the improvement of living conditions for asylum seekers and immigrants and their integration in society. It also noted that the amendment to the Aliens Act placed more restrictions on obtaining residence permits and that decisions of the Refugee Appeals Board could not be appealed before a court.

90. Ukraine commended efforts to improve the legislative framework on the protection of children, vulnerable people, asylum seekers and migrants and noted that between 2013 and 2015, Denmark had ratified or signed four international conventions. Ukraine encouraged Denmark to ratify the remaining conventions. Ukraine noted the steps taken towards implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations.

91. The United Arab Emirates recognized the commitment of Denmark to human rights and praised the measures it had taken to promote the rights of children and persons with disabilities, while expressing concern at reports of discrimination against minorities, such as Muslims.

92. The United Kingdom welcomed the action taken to limit the length of pretrial custody and the support of Denmark for universal ratification and implementation of the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol thereto. It urged continued efforts to

prevent sexual and gender-based violence and to ensure that perpetrators were brought to justice and survivors given better support.

93. The United States of America encouraged continued efforts to address violence against women and domestic violence and to promote religious freedom. It urged Denmark to increase incentives for victims to secure their cooperation in the prosecution of traffickers. It expressed concern about the pending bill that would permit asylum seekers to be searched and their cash and valuables seized.

94. Uruguay commended Denmark for the high number of reports submitted to the treaty bodies. It noted the initiatives taken in protecting the rights of children and persons with disabilities and the advances made in relation to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons.

95. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the adoption in Greenland of the Gender Equality Act, the establishment of the 24-hour hotline for victims of domestic violence and the adoption of the Disability Pension and Flexi Job scheme. The reform of State schools was an important step for increasing student welfare and reducing bullying.

96. Afghanistan appreciated the commitment of Denmark to a holistic and inclusive approach to refugees and immigrants and noted incentives to promote gender equality. It acknowledged the intention of Denmark to collaborate with national stakeholders in the application of human rights.

97. Albania commended Denmark for its Disability Policy Action Plan of 2013 and encouraged further endeavours to improve the protection of human rights, particularly focusing on gender equality and women from ethnic minority groups.

98. Algeria welcomed measures to combat domestic violence, the amendments to the law on nationality, initiatives to promote gender equality and the plan to combat trafficking in persons.

99. Argentina congratulated Denmark on the progress made in protecting persons with disabilities following the implementation of the Disability Policy Action Plan of 2013. It noted the new rules concerning family reunification.

100. Armenia noted the positive developments since the first review, particularly those relating to children and persons with disabilities. It welcomed the amendment to the Nationality Act allowing for dual citizenship. It appreciated the fact that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights continued to be taught in schools.

101. Australia commended Denmark for its accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It welcomed the increased protection for children who were vulnerable to human trafficking, as well as initiatives to address gender inequality and violence against women and children. It noted the high level of discrimination against indigenous people, migrants and minority groups.

102. Austria commended efforts to implement recommendations, including the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It expressed concern about amendments to the Aliens Act resulting from the refugee situation in Europe, and about the low number of cases of sexual and physical violence against women, stalking or harassment that went to trial or resulted in conviction, given the high number of reported cases.

103. Azerbaijan shared the concerns of several treaty bodies regarding the existence of problems related to discrimination, xenophobia, hate speech, Islamophobia, ethnic profiling, domestic violence, and minorities' and non-citizens' access to housing, health services, education and justice.

104. Bahrain expressed concern about racial discrimination and discrimination against ethnic groups and nationalities in terms of access to work, education and housing, as well as restrictions on family reunification and the negative political discourse on migration that was still widespread in political debates.

105. Belarus noted the continuous work of Denmark to improve its legal norms to protect human rights. It was concerned about reports in the mass media of racist speech from some politicians.

106. Benin expressed appreciation for the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the first review and noted measures to improve conditions for persons with disabilities by reforming the Disability Pension and Flexi Job scheme, the amendment to the Nationality Act and the situation of migrants and refugees.

107. The Plurinational State of Bolivia underscored the creation of the Office for Children.

108. Botswana commended the reform of the Disability Pension and Flexi Job scheme, the amendment to the Nationality Act and the establishment of the National Cyber Crime Centre. It noted reports of racial profiling, and of persons from minority groups and non-citizens facing structural discrimination with regard to access to employment, housing, health services, quality education and justice. It also noted the pretrial detention of children under 17.

109. Brazil noted the efforts to improve the general situation of human rights through the adoption of laws regarding children, vulnerable persons and persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, refugees and migrants. Brazil was concerned about the situation of the increasing number of migrants, many of whom faced serious difficulties with the process of integration.

110. France welcomed the efforts of Denmark to combat torture and promote international criminal justice, particularly the work of the International Criminal Court.

111. Ireland commended Denmark for publishing its National Action Plan on the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Ireland noted with concern the amendments to the Aliens Act, which placed restrictions on family reunification for persons possessing temporary protection status.

112. Denmark stated that children placed in alternative care in a municipality other than their municipality of residence had to receive an educational offer within three weeks, during which time one-on-one education had to be offered to the child. Exceptions were made where the former municipality of residence could approve another educational offer for the child.

113. Denmark had in practice made every ministry responsible for assessing the gender impact of their new legislation. A strategy had been launched aiming at strengthening and systematizing gender mainstreaming done by public authorities. At the local level, a booklet had been published for municipalities with tools, best practices and recommendations for working with gender equality assessment activities.

114. The Refugee Appeals Board was an independent, quasi-judicial body that could not accept or seek direction from the Government. Its decisions were final. The Immigration Service was the first instance responsible for assessing claims for asylum. If the Immigration Service rejected an asylum application, the case would automatically be appealed to the Refugee Appeals Board.

115. Responding to a question, the delegation clarified that only persons under the most serious form of legal guardianship were precluded from voting in Danish Parliamentary elections.

116. The Faroe Islands had begun to look into different national monitoring mechanisms in the field of human rights that would be appropriate for Faroese society and that were in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

117. In Greenland, a mobile task force had been set up to help adults cope with psychological complications resulting from abuse in childhood. Corporal punishment of children was expected to be fully abolished by legislation adopted in 2016. A shelter had opened offering nationwide crisis and treatment services for battered women and their children. Two surveys addressing the extent of sexual abuse in Greenland would strengthen initiatives and actions in response to sexual abuse. Education was a priority in Greenland, which was making substantial investments in it, including with financial support from the European Union. Denmark had only one indigenous people according to the definition contained in the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) — the Inuits. That did not mean, however, that the Inughuit of Uummannaq were not capable of maintaining their identity and the use of their own language.

118. Denmark would remain vigilant in its work to promote and protect human rights and to actively contribute to improving the rights of people around the world. Denmark would formally launch its candidacy to the Human Rights Council for the period 2019-2021 at the opening of the thirty-first session.

119. Denmark appreciated all the views, questions and recommendations. The many recommendations would be subject to careful consideration and internal discussions and consultations with Greenland, the Faroes, local authorities and civil society. Denmark would respond to the recommendation at the June session of the Council.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

120. **The following recommendations will be examined by Denmark which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council in June 2016:**

120.1 **Consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Italy); Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ghana);**

120.2 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Montenegro) (France) (Portugal) (Tunisia);**

120.3 **Withdraw the territorial exclusion for Greenland and the Faroe Islands to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Canada);**

120.4 **Work with the Greenland authorities to withdraw the territorial reservation for Greenland to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

120.5 **Advance the ratification of the pending international instruments, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Chile);

120.6 **Consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia) (Sri Lanka) (Ghana) (Philippines);**

120.7 **Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ecuador);**

120.8 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria) (Azerbaijan) (Benin) (Egypt) (Honduras) (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

120.9 **Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay) (Turkey);**

120.10 **Ratify and implement the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Kyrgyzstan);**

120.11 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and fully recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, as provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention (Germany) (France);**

120.12 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Ghana);**

120.13 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Panama) (Tunisia) (Uruguay) (Portugal) (Montenegro);**

120.14 **Take necessary steps to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Slovakia);**

120.15 **Internalise as soon as possible the following international human rights treaties: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Brazil);**

120.16 **Ratify ILO Convention 189 of 2011 on domestic workers (Benin);**

120.17 **Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);**

120.18 **Reconsider the constraints underneath the process of accession to Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights (Mozambique);**

120.19 **Accede to Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights and ensure implementation of concrete measures against all forms of discrimination (Uruguay);**

120.20 **Incorporate core United Nations human rights treaties into domestic legislation (Azerbaijan);**

120.21 **Incorporate the international instruments it acceded to into domestic legislation (Egypt);**

120.22 **Incorporate the human rights conventions into national law (Guatemala);**

120.23 **Bring legislation, including the Criminal Code, in line with the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Kyrgyzstan);**

120.24 **Modify the criminal code to harmonize its provisions with those of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Benin);**

120.25 **Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation (Maldives);**

120.26 **Explicitly prohibit discrimination against persons with disabilities and discrimination based on religious belief (Djibouti);**

120.27 **Amend the relevant laws so that all persons with disabilities could vote and stand for election (Albania);**

120.28 **Amend laws to ensure that all persons with disabilities could vote and stand for election (Maldives);**

120.29 **Strengthen its legislation, in particular the Penal Code, in order to harmonize its provisions with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Côte d'Ivoire);**

120.30 **Incorporate into the Criminal Code an outright ban on the activities of organizations which promote racial discrimination (Russian Federation);**

120.31 **Amend the Penal Code in the Faroe Islands to ensure that the definition of rape is brought in line with international standards and criminalized in all circumstances, including within marriage (Norway);**

120.32 **Complete the amendments expected to be carried out on the crime of rape in the Criminal Code of the Faroe Islands (Spain);**

120.33 **Ensure that the definition of rape in the Faroese legislation is brought into line with international standards so that rape is criminalized in all circumstances, including within marriage (Iceland);**

120.34 **Strengthen its regulatory and policy framework, in accordance with international human rights standards, for the effective protection of asylum seekers and refugees (Ecuador);**

120.35 **Decriminalize defamation and place it within a civil code in accordance with international standards (Estonia);**

120.36 **Eliminate discrimination against migrants, and especially migrant women (Maldives);**

120.37 **Refrain from passing discriminatory legislation that are based on bias against foreigners and refugees (Lebanon);**

120.38 **Amend the new Aliens law on confiscating valuable belongings to cover refugees' expenses to ensure compatibility with human rights obligations (Egypt);**

120.39 **Consider amending the Aliens Act in order to ensure that refugees and other beneficiaries of international protection and their family members can exercise their right to long term residence (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

120.40 **Ensure that the review of counter-terrorism legislation take account of, and that the relevant legislation be amended in full compliance with, Denmark's human rights obligations (Hungary);**

120.41 **To the Faroe Islands: Establish a National Human Rights Institution covering the Faroe Islands according to recommendations made by the United Nations General Assembly (1994) and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2013) (Poland);**

120.42 **Provide the Special Office for Children with a mandate and additional powers to enable it to provide advisory and legal assistance in a wider range of cases (Germany);**

120.43 **Increase the mandate and powers of the Special Office for Children to provide advisory or legal assistance in a wider range of cases (Hungary);**

120.44 **Strengthen the mandate of the Special Office for Children and give the Office additional powers to provide advisory and legal assistance in a wider range of cases (Norway);**

120.45 **Strengthen the mandate of the Office for Children and guarantee children direct access to a single complaints mechanism and to independent advice and legal assistance for children in a wider range of cases (Ireland);**

120.46 **Consider the development of a national action plan for the promotion and protection of human rights (Georgia);**

120.47 **Develop a National Action Plan for Human Rights in order to framework a systematic and comprehensive approach to the promotion and protection of human rights (Indonesia);**

120.48 **Establish a national action plan against racism, work for tolerance and preserve freedom of belief (Djibouti);**

120.49 **Develop a national plan against racism and discrimination, in accordance with its international obligations (Costa Rica);**

120.50 **Develop a plan of action to combat racism (Russian Federation);**

120.51 **Strengthen national action plans that promote tolerance and intercultural understanding, in order to prevent and counter racist and xenophobic acts, particularly those arising from political propaganda (Chile);**

120.52 **Develop a national plan for combating hate crimes in order to ensure continuity and sustainability (Poland);**

120.53 **Develop a comprehensive strategy and action plan to combat xenophobia and racial discrimination (Turkey);**

120.54 **Establish an independent mechanism to defend the rights of children on Faroe Islands (Benin);**

120.55 **Ensure that its policies, legislation, regulations and enforcement measures effectively serve to prevent and address the heightened risk of business involvement in abuses in conflict situations, which includes situations of foreign occupation (State of Palestine);**

120.56 **Build on existing inclusion strategies by implementing public awareness campaigns and education programmes to promote diversity and tolerance, while condemning racism and xenophobia (Canada);**

120.57 **Increase efforts to promote tolerance and intercultural understanding with the aim of eliminating discrimination against minorities and non-citizens (Japan);**

120.58 **Encourage highly placed State officials and politicians to take a clear stance against racist and xenophobic political discourse (Tunisia);**

120.59 **Implement public awareness campaigns to promote tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and to counter prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination, racism, and Islamophobia (United Arab Emirates);**

120.60 **Build tolerance and intercultural understanding, and develop a national action plan on racism (Albania);**

120.61 **When responding to hate crimes, ensure targeted training of law enforcement to strengthen capacity to conduct special investigations, accurately register complaints and reflect victims' perspectives (Canada);**

120.62 **Provide basic human rights education to children in primary and secondary schools (Slovenia);**

120.63 **Make teaching on genocide and crimes against humanity a part of curriculum in public schools (Armenia);**

120.64 **Expressly prohibit discrimination against persons with disabilities as well as religious belief, sexual orientation or age, outside the labour market (Bulgaria);**

120.65 **Enhance and improve laws and legislation to combat all forms of discrimination, racism and foreign hatred (Lebanon);**

120.66 **Review its body of legislation prohibiting discrimination on any grounds, and in this regard, expressly prohibit discrimination due to disability, age, religious belief, sexual orientation or gender identity (Canada);**

120.67 **Continue the strengthening of the comprehensive regulatory framework that prohibits discrimination, including that based on gender, and promote coordination between the competent bodies and facilitate the reporting of such crimes by persons in situations of vulnerability (Mexico);**

120.68 **Consider enacting comprehensive equality legislation that will provide effective remedies and address discrimination on all grounds (Serbia);**

120.69 **Adopt the necessary legislative measures to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in all public policies at all levels of government, and prohibit and punish discrimination based on gender (Honduras);**

120.70 **Take more effective measures to combat racial discrimination and intolerance against migrants, and improve the legislative framework with the aim of fostering social acceptance of migrants (Italy);**

120.71 **Continue its efforts to further mainstream gender equality in the public sphere as well as to combat domestic violence to protect the rights of women in the private sphere (Thailand);**

120.72 Continue progress to increase gender equality and protections for women and girls who encounter violence including enhanced implementation of Denmark's existing legal and policy frameworks (Australia);

120.73 Engage in dialogue and offer assistance to the autonomous authorities of the Faroe Islands and Greenland to introduce legislative changes in favour of women's rights and equality (Costa Rica);

120.74 Counter discrimination and promote a more inclusive society (Australia);

120.75 Develop and implement a national action plan to cultivate a culture of respect and tolerance and promote intercultural understanding (Maldives);

120.76 Adopt legislation to prohibit all forms of discrimination on the basis of race, colour, ethnicity, age, religion and disability and to ensure access to effective remedy for victims of discrimination (Islamic Republic of Iran);

120.77 Enhance the promotion of dialogue among societies, including inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogue in the country (Indonesia);

120.78 Continue its efforts to fight hate speech in different State institutions through the establishment of tolerance and understanding between cultures (Iraq);

120.79 Pay more attention to the problems of discrimination against non-ethnic Danes and multicultural relations (Kyrgyzstan);

120.80 Step-up measures to effectively combat racism and xenophobia while inculcating respect, tolerance and intercultural understanding, especially in schools (Malaysia);

120.81 Continue efforts to prevent various forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on ethnic origin (Morocco);

120.82 Take effective policy measures in order to combat racism, intolerance, stereotypes and unlawful attitudes against ethnic and religious minorities and take legislative measures that prohibit hate speech (Namibia);

120.83 Continue to implement measures to eliminate discrimination, including on the basis of ethnic or religious background (New Zealand);

120.84 Continue working on programmes to combat discrimination, particularly against persons belonging to minorities or vulnerable groups (Nicaragua);

120.85 Take concrete measures to put an end to Islamophobia and hate speech regarding Muslims, which continues to be widespread in public and political debate (Islamic Republic of Iran);

120.86 Take effective measures to encourage tolerance and to combat illegal stands and stereotypes against minorities, in particular Muslims (Saudi Arabia);

120.87 Combat racism and xenophobia, and strengthen efforts at promoting intercultural understanding and tolerance (South Africa);

120.88 Step up efforts to fight racial prejudice and violence, xenophobia and intolerance (Argentina);

120.89 Take clear measures to combat Islamophobia, racism and xenophobia and hatred (Bahrain);

120.90 **Effectively combat all manifestations of Islamophobia and promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity in the society (Azerbaijan);**

120.91 **Launch specific targeted initiatives and formulate policies to combat intolerance, racism, xenophobia, in particular against Muslims (Saudi Arabia);**

120.92 **Intensify its efforts to eliminate discrimination based on ethnicity, including by improving access to justice for victims of ethnic discrimination (Sweden);**

120.93 **Re-enforce measures to combat racism and discrimination against persons of foreign origin, in particular through the prohibition of ethnic profiling and through awareness raising in the security services as to non-discriminatory measures and methods (Algeria);**

120.94 **Step up efforts to combat racism and ensure elimination of all acts of racial intolerance (Botswana);**

120.95 **Work towards enforcing Human Righst Council resolution 16/18 concerning combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief (Bahrain);**

120.96 **Discourage discrimination against minorities in Denmark, especially Muslims and take effective measures to promote tolerance and counter attitudes which lead to stereotyping and hate crimes against ethnic and religious minorities (Pakistan);**

120.97 **Raise awareness in public regarding the limits and responsibility of freedom of expression, in accordance with international standards urging to take concrete legal and practical measures to combat incitement to religious hatred and intolerance (Pakistan);**

120.98 **Promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples, peasants and other rural workers (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

120.99 **Take concrete steps to end ethnic segregation in schools, include diversity and tolerance education in primary school curricula, and submit outstanding reports to the implementation on the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Slovenia);**

120.100 **Implement support services and ensure non-discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (South Africa);**

120.101 **Ensure equal access to public health for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, removing existing legislative barriers for access to gender reassignment-related treatments (Uruguay);**

120.102 **Explicitly prohibit organizations promoting racial and religious hatred as well as racial profiling (Egypt);**

120.103 **Monitor and address rampant hate speech on the social media, especially that is directed at Muslims and refugees in public and political debates and manifested in Islamophobia (Pakistan);**

120.104 **Limit the use of prolonged periods of pre-trial detention for non-nationals (Greece);**

120.105 **Continue to combat violence against women and girls and develop a comprehensive action plan for the prevention of sexual violence and for ensuring the legal rights of victims of sexual violence (Finland);**

120.106 **Allocate the human and technical resources necessary to strengthen the fight against gender violence at all levels of government and the justice system (Honduras);**

120.107 **Ensure that programmes and policies to curb domestic violence are fully implemented (Philippines);**

120.108 **Review its approach to domestic violence to better prevent and respond to cases of domestic violence against women and children (United States of America);**

120.109 **Develop and adopt further measures to prevent and combat sexual violence against women (Austria);**

120.110 **Step up efforts to prevent violence against women and domestic violence (Azerbaijan);**

120.111 **Take necessary measures in order to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and abuse of vulnerable people especially in Greenland (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

120.112 **Continue moving in the direction of improving the standards and the quality of care and treatment in foster homes (Georgia);**

120.113 **Accelerate the establishment of a police independent mechanism which ensures that they do not resort to violence against women and girls (Libya);**

120.114 **Ensure that all cases where children have been a victim of domestic violence or witnessed such violence are properly documented and registered and that social recovery and reintegration services of child victims are reinforced (Republic of Moldova);**

120.115 **Continue its successful initiatives to fight the worst forms of child labour, in particular child trafficking for the purposes of labour exploitation and prostitution (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

120.116 **Take necessary measures to ensure that sufficient up-to-date data on the worst forms of child labour would be made available (Lithuania);**

120.117 **Step up efforts to prevent and address bullying in schools, inter alia, by introducing a range of educational and socio-pedagogical methods, and consider introducing appropriate monitoring of anti-bullying strategies in schools (Slovakia);**

120.118 **That Greenland reform and upgrade municipal competences and accountability in order to apply constructive measures and to promote protection of the child against violence, and to assist families in rehabilitation efforts on substance abuse and addiction (Iceland);**

120.119 **Further ongoing efforts to combat human trafficking (Sri Lanka);**

120.120 **Continue to pay special attention to the victims of human trafficking and harmonize its national legislation with international instruments to which it is a party and recommendations made on this matter by treaty bodies (Nicaragua);**

120.121 Strengthen the implementation of mechanisms for the assistance of victims of trafficking, placing emphasis on child victims of this crime (Colombia);

120.122 Further combat the worst forms of child labour, including trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and prostitution (Lithuania);

120.123 Further ensure the identification and protection of victims of human trafficking (Greece);

120.124 Adopt legislative and policy measures to eradicate re-victimization in cases of trafficking and ensure adequate protection to victims, migrant workers in particular, regardless of their immigration status (Honduras);

120.125 Strengthen protection for victims of human trafficking by providing temporary residency in order to promote cooperation with law enforcement and establish legal alternatives to their deportation to countries where they may face retribution or hardship (United States of America);

120.126 Undertake a comprehensive investigation into the so-called prison flights in which the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States of America landed aircraft at Danish airports with arbitrarily detained persons on board during its special operations (Russian Federation);

120.127 Investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes against minorities (Azerbaijan);

120.128 Reform its criminal justice system and ensure the age of criminal responsibility is in line with international standards (Botswana);

120.129 Review the detention in solitary confinement of persons under 18 years of age, to ensure that no child is held in ordinary prisons for adults (Mexico);

120.130 Repeal the provisions that allow persons with disabilities to be subject to medication and psychiatric treatment without their consent (Mexico);

120.131 Introduce alternative measures to pre-trial detention for minors wherever possible, and develop clear rules for the treatment of minors in police custody and monitor their effective implementation in practice (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

120.132 Take the measures necessary to prevent the detention of minors in adult prisons (Honduras);

120.133 Limit the use of or abolish solitary confinement of children (Namibia);

120.134 Adopt legislation to limit the use of solitary confinement and abolish solitary confinement of children (Poland);

120.135 Prohibit the use of solitary confinement for children within the criminal justice system (Slovenia);

120.136 Give special considerations to juvenile offenders, such as to prohibit the use of solitary confinement against persons under 18 and separate juvenile offenders from adult offenders (Thailand);

120.137 Provide protection for the family as the natural and fundamental unit of the society (Egypt);

120.138 Ensure, through effective measures and consultations, that contested children in a marital dispute have the possibility of maintaining consistent contact with the foreign parent living abroad (Italy);

120.139 Adopt practical and legal measures to strengthen the foundation of the family and avoid resorting to measures and legislation which endanger the very foundation of the family in society (Islamic Republic of Iran);

120.140 Undertake all necessary efforts to allow for both parents to be able to act responsibly for the upbringing and development of the child (Austria);

120.141 Allow minors to change their legal gender by allowing the person exercising parental authority over the minor to file an application (Netherlands);

120.142 Amend the Marriage Law in the Faroe Islands to allow for same sex marriages (Iceland);

120.143 Refrain from banning or setting age limit on non-therapeutic circumcision of boys (Egypt);

120.144 Enact legislation criminalizing defamation of religious symbols under the pretext of freedom of expression (Libya);

120.145 Eliminate any legislation or measures that discriminate on the basis of religion (United Arab Emirates);

120.146 Intensify its efforts in combatting hate crimes through the effective implementation of the new monitoring system provided for this purpose (Côte d'Ivoire);

120.147 Launch awareness campaigns and financially support NGOs working in the area of crimes related to prejudice and hate (Spain);

120.148 Condemn all hate crimes, discrimination and racial profiling (Malaysia);

120.149 Promote responsible freedom of expression in speeches and publications to curb hate crimes (Malaysia);

120.150 Continue strengthening efforts to combat hate crime (Morocco);

120.151 Continue to strengthen efforts taken by the police to combat hate crime based on ethnicity and ensure effective handling of such cases (Singapore);

120.152 Enact legislation which makes a distinction between the freedom of expression and hate speech and take measures to guarantee the representation of minorities in social and political areas (Saudi Arabia);

120.153 Intensify its efforts to combat hate speech, racist and xenophobic statements (Belarus);

120.154 Take further active steps to create equal opportunities for both men and women in the labour market, and to bridge the gender wage gap (Sweden);

120.155 Continue strengthening social programmes for the most vulnerable sectors of the population, in particular children, women, the elderly and those with disabilities belonging to minorities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

120.156 Ensure that all persons belonging to disadvantaged groups and marginalized groups have access to basic health care (Uganda);

120.157 **Ensure continuous schooling of children following the decision on placement in alternative care (Slovenia);**

120.158 **Continue its efforts to ensure access to state education for all children, without regard to their legal status (Belarus);**

120.159 **Consider further actions to promote better access to education for children in Greenland and in the Faroe Islands (Estonia);**

120.160 **Pay special attention to accessibility and the physical environment of educational establishments in line with the suggestions of the National Council for Children (Spain);**

120.161 **Take effective measures to address the inequality in the status of court interpretation of minority languages (Djibouti);**

120.162 **Ensure that Inuit children can retain their identity and use their own language (Panama);**

120.163 **Strengthen policies and initiatives to promote tolerance towards and integration of ethnic minorities in all spheres of society (Singapore);**

120.164 **Strengthen the employment and education rate among refugees and migrants (South Africa);**

120.165 **Continue its experimental programme on access to mother tongue education for children belonging to minority groups (State of Palestine);**

120.166 **Recognise the Thule tribe as a distinct indigenous community capable of vindicating its traditional rights (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

120.167 **Fulfil obligations and commitments under international law to enhance efforts to combat hate crimes, especially those targeting refugees, migrants and based on religious background (China);**

120.168 **Adopt comprehensive immigration legislation consistent with their human rights obligations, to ensure non-discrimination and the effective integration of immigrants (Honduras);**

120.169 **Continue working to improve its treatment of migrants and refugees in a transparent manner, and with full respect for human rights, especially those of women and children (Japan);**

120.170 **Increase the security in the shelters for unaccompanied migrant children; investigate cases of disappearances of children from these centres (Mexico);**

120.171 **Ensure that all relevant international conventions and protocols are respected, and that migrants, particularly children, have access to basic services and are housed in suitable conditions (New Zealand);**

120.172 **Step up efforts to tackle structural discrimination faced by minority groups, non-citizens and refugees, especially with regard to employment, education, housing, health services, and access to justice (Republic of Korea);**

120.173 **Take measures to prevent discrimination against migrants and refugees in access to the labour market, as well as to health care and education (Russian Federation);**

120.174 **Review the legal framework on asylum, migration and immigration and repeal the provisions on denial of stay in the country and expulsion for**

reasons of national security which contravene the international standards to which Denmark is a party (Mexico);

120.175 **Review and improve the practices related to the care of asylum seekers (Costa Rica);**

120.176 **Step up efforts towards the prevention of discrimination against refugees and asylum seekers by repealing recent laws and methods perpetuating those practices (Greece);**

120.177 **Ensure that the best interests of the child are fully considered when deciding on asylum applications (Namibia);**

120.178 **Ensure that changes in the asylum laws and regulations are compliant with international human rights standards (Philippines);**

120.179 **Exempt all asylum-seeking and migrant children from detention and grant them access to education through integration into mainstream public schools (Portugal);**

120.180 **Ensure that asylum seekers and children of refugees receive the same quality of education as other children in Danish schools (Afghanistan);**

120.181 **Ensure further protection to refugees and asylum seekers (Algeria);**

120.182 **Ensure that the treatment of asylum seekers remains in accordance with the international conventions and protocols that Denmark has signed up to (Austria);**

120.183 **Ensure that the best interests of the child are fully considered when deciding on asylum cases (Austria);**

120.184 **Ensure that the best interests of the child are fully considered when deciding on asylum cases and uphold international obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Iceland);**

120.185 **Take further steps in order to protect the right to family reunifications for refugees, giving emphasis to child rights (Greece);**

120.186 **Grant the right to family reunification to all refugees (Guatemala);**

120.187 **Allow persons originating from countries in conflict and other situations of violence and thus granted temporary subsidiary protection status to initiate family reunification proceedings during their first year in Denmark (Portugal);**

120.188 **Take further measures to facilitate family reunification (Turkey);**

120.189 **Take the necessary legal measures to ensure the right to family reunification of children aged over 15 years (Argentina);**

120.190 **Give importance to guaranteeing that refugees who fall into the category of "war refugees" are given the right to family reunification (Bahrain);**

120.191 **Grant expedited family reunification to refugees who are entitled to asylum due to the general situation in their home country, in particular "war refugees" (Brazil);**

120.192 **Ensure that persons with temporary protection status have the right to immediately initiate family reunification proceedings, and that the age limit for family reunification for children be raised from 15 to 18 (Ireland);**

120.193 **Continue to implement the measures necessary to find solutions for stateless persons (Colombia);**

120.194 **Take further measures to ensure that its national citizenship legislation complies fully with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Finland);**

120.195 **Strengthen measures to promote citizenship (South Africa);**

120.196 **Adopt a legal framework to facilitate the granting of residence permits to child victims of trafficking and to grant citizenship to all children born in Denmark that otherwise would be stateless and thus more vulnerable to exploitation (Mexico);**

120.197 **Carry out an inclusive, evidence-based evaluation of the Danish anti-terrorism legislation, as previously recommended (Netherlands);**

120.198 **Continue to honour its commitment to development aid to help developing countries better achieve the right to development (China);**

120.199 **Continue its development assistance to the developing countries for better realization of socio-economic rights as part of a globally inclusive and sustainable development agenda (Nepal).**

121. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Denmark was headed by Mr. Kristian JENSEN, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Poul MICHELSEN, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Faroe Islands
- Mr. Carsten STAUR, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN
- Mr. Tobias Elling REHFELD, Under-Secretary for Legal Services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. Pernille BENGTSEN, Special Advisor, Government of Greenland
- Ms. Mette Nørgaard DISSING-SPANDET, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. Hanne FINDSEN, Head of International Affairs, Ministry of Health
- Mr Jakob Dam GLYNSTUP, Head of Division, Danish Immigration Service
- Ms. Anita HØRBY, Head of Division, Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior
- Ms. Lone ZEUNER, Head of Division, Danish Immigration Service
- Mr. Henrik THOMASSEN, Head of Department, Ministry for Immigration, Integration and Housing
- Ms. Marie-Louise Koch WEGTER, Deputy Permanent Representative, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN
- Ms. Tina Gade JENSEN, Special Advisor, Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior
- Mr. Gunvør BALLE, Special Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Faroe Islands
- Mr. Lars Peter LEVY, Special Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. Margretha Nónklett, Special Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Faroe Islands
- Mr. Søren Feldbaek WINTHER, Special Advisor, Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Equality
- Mr. Adam WORM, Senior Advisor, Government of Greenland
- Ms. Louise FALKENBERG, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Justice
- Mr. Ketilbjørn HERTZ, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Justice
- Ms. Caroline Cecilie Østergaard NIELSEN, Legal Advisor, Ministry of Justice
- Ms. Anne HOUGAARD, Private Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. Malene MORTENSEN, Head of Section, Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Equality
- Ms. Christine PETHEÖ, Head of Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Ms. Camilla Brinch RASMUSSEN, Head of Section, Ministry of Justice
- Ms. Stine SVEJBORG, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN
- Mr. Hasse HECKMANN, Intern, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN
- Ms. Eva Krogsgaard NIELSEN, Intern, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN
- Ms. Benedicte STORM, Intern, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN.